

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 26 November 2018 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to transmit the attached letters, dated 7 August 2018 (see annex I) and 26 October 2018 (see annex II), from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Jens Stoltenberg, transmitting the reports on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2018 and from 1 July to 30 September 2018, respectively.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes were to be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) António Guterres



Annex I

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), please find attached the quarterly report on Kosovo Force operations covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2018 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making the report available to the members of the Council.

(Signed) Jens Stoltenberg

Enclosure**Report to the United Nations on Kosovo Force operations**

1. The present report, submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), covers the Kosovo Force (KFOR) activities in the period from 1 April to 30 June 2018.
2. As at 30 June 2018, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remained approximately 4,000, from 19 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 8 non-NATO troop-contributing nations.
3. During the reporting period, there were no major security incidents and KFOR was not requested or required to directly intervene as a third responder.

Security situation update and operations

4. During the reporting period, the overall security situation in Kosovo remained generally stable, but fragile, with no major disruptions to the safe and secure environment. The high-level meeting between the President of Serbia, Aleksandar Vučić, and Hashim Thaçi, held on 24 June 2018 in Brussels, resumed the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue facilitated by the European Union and had a positive effect on the security situation in Kosovo.
5. KFOR continued to conduct routine framework operations across the area of operations and has also been closely monitoring developments related to the Kosovo Security Force and possible indictments by the Kosovo Specialist Court, with potential security implications.
6. KFOR maintained a flexible force posture to be able to respond rapidly and effectively. In June 2018, within the normal training cycle, KFOR conducted operational rehearsal activities to verify the readiness of the operational reserve forces.
7. KFOR continued to work in close cooperation with the other security organizations in Kosovo. On 27 April 2018, KFOR successfully completed the biannual exercise Silver Sabre 2018-1. From 4 to 13 May 2018, KFOR provided training and medical support for exercise Eagle VI led by the Kosovo Security Force, which brought together NATO and international partners. Both exercises focused on improving interoperability, civil disturbance management and emergency disaster relief operations.

Summary

8. During the reporting period, KFOR effectively contributed to both maintaining a safe and secure environment and ensuring freedom of movement as part of a comprehensive international effort. The close coordination and cooperation at the tactical level between KFOR, the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo and Kosovo police continue to be highly effective.

Annex II

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), please find attached the quarterly report on Kosovo Force operations covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2018 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making the report available to the members of the Council.

(Signed) Jens Stoltenberg

Enclosure**Report to the United Nations on Kosovo Force operations**

1. The present report, submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), covers the Kosovo Force (KFOR) activities during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2018.
2. As at 30 September 2018, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remained approximately 3,800, from 19 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 8 non-NATO troop-contributing nations.
3. There were no major security incidents during the reporting period and no requirement for KFOR to intervene as a third responder.

Security situation update and operations

4. During the reporting period, there was no significant change to the overall security situation in Kosovo, which remained generally stable, but fragile. Continued political progress is required to significantly improve the current situation. Though Belgrade and Pristina remain generally committed to the dialogue process led by the European Union, they still have persisting disagreements on key issues.
5. KFOR continued to conduct routine framework operations in the area of operations, combined with coordinated and comprehensive engagement activities by key leaders. KFOR maintained a flexible force posture to be able to respond rapidly and effectively.
6. From 2 to 4 August 2018, KFOR conducted exercise Watchful Commitment to demonstrate the readiness and ability of KFOR units to deploy in order to deter any potential restrictions on freedom of movement and ensure the maintenance of a safe and secure environment.
7. KFOR continued to work in close cooperation with the other security organizations in Kosovo. On 5 July 2018, KFOR successfully hosted a workshop on foreign fighters and religious extremism, with the participation of delegations from Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹, the Institutions in Kosovo, Montenegro, the European Union-led peacekeeping force and the NATO Intelligence Fusion Centre. From 3 to 7 September 2018, designated elements of the KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion participated in the peace support operation exercise Quick Response 2018 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which makes use of the capability of the European Union-led peacekeeping force to activate over-the-horizon reserves in support of local authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Summary

8. KFOR remained effective in its mission operations, contributing to a safe and secure environment that enhances the dynamic stability across the entire territory of Kosovo as part of a comprehensive international effort. The close coordination and cooperation at the tactical level between KFOR, the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo and Kosovo police continue to be effective.

¹ Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.